

ENGLISH EDITION

MEDWAVES

MAP CO-ORDINATING UNIT • NEWS BULLETIN PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH • OCTOBER- DECEMBER 1986 • ISSUE No 7

MOVING TO A NEW PHASE

WE, AS A GROUP OF NATIONS, MUST COMMIT OURSELVES

*An interview with the Greek Minister of the Environment, Physical Planning
and Public Works Mr Evangelos Kouloubis*

The Mediterranean Action Plan has been in existence for eleven years. How does Greece assess a. its activities and b. the level of co-operation among the participating countries?

Furthermore, are there any problems and if so, what does Greece propose in order that a solution be found for them?

GIVEN the fact that almost every new organization or institution faces some difficulties in the beginning and being aware of the special features of the Mediterranean area, one can assess as very positive the activities of the Mediterranean Action Plan up to now. For the last eleven years, representatives of countries with different languages, traditions, cultures, religions, level of economic development and political choices have sat around one table, have been discussing and taken decisions on a matter that unites them all: The protection from pollution of the sea that they all share, the Mediterranean.

This co-operation among our countries – and despite some differences that at times are great – must be safeguarded, used to the fullest and extended.

The Mediterranean Action Plan has scope for many more activities: this can clearly be seen in the Genoa Declaration. The smooth co-operation among the various countries is one prerequisite for reaching our common goals.

Some important matters of concern to the Mediterranean Action Plan at this point are:

a) In the beginning, some Contracting Parties played a decisive role within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan: their contribution must be duly recognized. However, now is the time for *all* Mediterranean countries to become active and undertake initiatives in order to ensure the continuing success of the Mediterranean Action Plan. Perhaps the Co-ordinating Unit could contribute to this in drawing up lists of topics which are of interest to each Contracting Party separately and which could constitute areas of activities within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan for the next several years.

b) Emphasis was up to now given to the technical dimension of the problem. This was a necessity. From now on the Mediterranean Action Plan must directly involve the citizens of the Mediterranean countries. It must disseminate information and convince the people that it is a serious effort, not just words. The best proof that the political will exists is to take concrete measures.

c) In our opinion, it is a very positive fact that the Mediterranean Action Plan, through the Mediterranean Trust Fund, has in the last few years become financially independent. World economic conditions are such that it is imperative that this independence continues through the contribution of all countries to the level that has been decided for each of them. This will be further proof that the political will exists and that the environment constitutes an essential component of the development

policy of each Contracting Party. Our country, host to the Mediterranean Action Plan, is especially interested in overcoming all existing difficulties, so that the Mediterranean Action Plan can continue operating smoothly and successfully.

How does Greece assess the results so far of the implementation of the three Protocols to the Barcelona Convention?

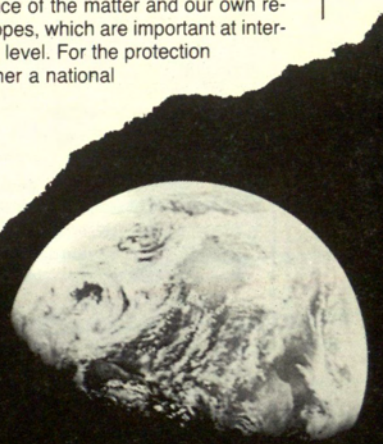
I WOULD like to make a distinction here. The implementation of the third Protocol cannot be evaluated in the same way as that of Protocols one and two. Despite the fact that the data available from the implementation of the first two protocols are not yet complete, the general picture is positive.

The third Protocol on Pollution from Land Based Sources is the most recent one (Greece ratified it with Law 1634/18 July 1986) and more different in its implementation. It presupposes a good knowledge of the situation, scientific studies and research, legal provisions at national level, perhaps even changes in the administrative structures, so it can only be implemented gradually and with caution.

Which action does the Government of Greece envisage taking after the entry into force of the Specially Protected Areas Protocol, given the fact that Greece has several areas to which the articles of this Protocol apply?

THE Specially Protected Areas Protocol entered into force after its ratification by Greece (Law 1634/18 July 1986) and this makes us even more aware of both the importance of the matter and our own responsibilities. Greece has several biotopes, which are important at international, Mediterranean and European level. For the protection of these areas Greece has put together a national programme. Studies are currently undertaken in connection with:

- The implementation of the Ramsar Convention which covers eleven Greek marine coastal areas in terms of demarcation and enhanced protection;
- The CORINE programme of the European Economic Community (ecological surveying);
- The Report on the State of the Environment in Greece.



**WE ARE NOT THE OWNERS
OF THIS EARTH**

Guest Editorial Turn to p. 3

INTERVIEW

Thus, we shall be able to make an important contribution towards the implementation of the Genoa Declaration to create a network of marine/coastal protected areas in the Mediterranean.

In addition, here in Greece already come under special protection two coastal national parks, four coastal forests of great beauty, two coastal/marine natural monuments and three more biotopes which are protected under national legislation.

More specifically:

In the Sporades islands studies continue on the monk seal *Monachus Monachus*; these studies are co-financed by the EEC. Also the process has already started for the creation and operation of a marine park by involving the people living in the area and the fisherman active there.

Furthermore, a comprehensive decision was taken this month by the Greek Ministry of the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works; it defines the uses and the conditions for the coast of Zante in order to protect the loggerhead turtle *Caretta Caretta*. In addition, the new framework law on the environment (Law 1650, Government Gazette 160/A/16 Oct 1986) provides for the issuance of a Presidential Decree for the Protection of endangered species and the safeguarding and management of sensitive areas.

In some areas of Greece there is increased marine pollution due to either industrial or urban wastes. What does the Government of Greece propose to do to solve this problem?

THE Greek Government has moved in this direction with large scale projects of collection, treatment and disposal of liquid wastes throughout the country. High priority was given to coastal cities in order to lower marine pollution levels. Large scale projects are being constructed in Athens and Salonica and they will help reduce marine pollution in the Saronic and Thermaic Gulfs respectively.

Other projects for cities such as Heraclion, Volos, Rethymnon, Chalcis, Corinth etc., are either in the construction or planning phases. In this respect we are fulfilling our obligations ensuing from the Genoa Declaration on the construction of treatment plants for urban wastes.

We also have a programme for the construction of reception facilities for tanker wastes in all major Greek ports. The Greek Law on the Environment, foresees a complete/integrated network for the protection of the water resources of our country, since it provides standards for all types of wastes discharged and for the receiving medium. More specifically, under the new law it becomes mandatory to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment study before a permit is issued for the construction of a major plant.

What has the Government done to reduce the high atmospheric pollution in Athens and to prevent such a phenomenon from occurring in other major cities in Greece?

THE Greek Government is at this point implementing the second five-year plan to combat atmospheric pollution in Athens.

Within the framework of the first five-year plan, the Government took a number of measures, institutional, administrative and technical. For instance, we took measures to improve the quality of various types of fuel; the result was decrease in the levels of lead in the air and in the blood of the general population and decrease in the level of sulphur dioxide in the air; today, these two dangerous pollutants no longer constitute a problem.

In addition, we took measures concerning motor vehicles, i.e. construction of Centres for the Technical Inspection of Vehicles, vehicle emission controls, replacement of old buses with new, upgrading and modernization of the electric trains, training programmes for specialists and information programme for the public. Furthermore, emphasis was placed on industry and central heating systems: inspection of such systems, extension of the network for the distribution of gas in the city, operation restrictions on polluting industrial or other plants.

Concerning the institutional and administrative measures, the following among others can be mentioned here: Appointment of Teams for Environmental Quality Control, a new law on accidents involving environmental pollution, the creation of the Athens Authority, and grouping the relevant services in the Ministry of the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works.



Our second five-year plan for combatting pollution in Athens includes special measures for all sources of pollution based on the conclusion of a series of technical and economic studies. These measures touch upon the whole structure of the city and we are hopeful that the problem will find its solution.

Concerning the rest of the country, 11 cities are already covered by systems of automatic monitoring of atmospheric pollution, so that we can arrive at an accurate and early diagnosis. We created the Salonica Authority which will oversee the implementation of both the Master Plan of the city and of the Environmental Protection Programme for Salonica. More generally, both the Law on the Environment and our urban and physical planning policies form the bases of decision-taking in order that we not repeat past mistakes.

Can funds from Integrated Mediterranean Programmes be used for the protection of the Greek Seas?

WE HAVE already included in the Integrated Mediterranean Programmes a proposal for the funding of a large-scale network to monitor the quality of the receiving waters. Furthermore the Integrated Mediterranean Programmes encompass certain possibilities for the funding of specific construction projects for the protection of the marine environment.

The Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention will take place in September here in Athens. Do you intend to take that opportunity in order to promote a new initiative within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan, or to suggest a new approach and, if so, which are going to be the main lines of your proposal?

THE Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention is going to take place in Athens in September 1987. It coincides with the twelfth year that the Mediterranean Action Plan has been in operation and it is also the European Year of the Environment.

This coincidence could be a good opportunity for all of us to move in the following directions:

– to convince the citizens of the Mediterranean countries and the visitors to the area of the concrete interest of our governments and of the usefulness of MAP. This will be accomplished if it becomes clear that we are moving to a new phase, the implementation phase. In our opinion there will be specific matters about which we, as a group of nations, will be ready to commit ourselves, for instance, the creation of a network of specially protected coastal/marine areas in the Mediterranean and the adoption of standards of seawater quality, on a case by case basis.

– to inform and involve the public in a series of activities to be organized at the same time as the Conference of the Contracting Parties, such as:

- an exhibition on the activities of MAP
- the presentation of the Report on the State of the Environment in Greece, with special emphasis on the marine environment
- poster contests with prizes to be awarded to the best
- coverage in the press and the mass media of the goals of MAP and of the decisions taken by the Meeting.

Greece which hosts both the Mediterranean Action Plan's Head Quarters and the next Conference of the Contracting Parties will spare no effort to ensure the success of the above mentioned activities and of all other relevant initiatives that may be proposed.

EL PAIS

THE POLLUTION WAS ATTENUATED IN THE MED

In spite of the efforts carried out by the coastal states, the ecologists believe that more than 70% of the wastes are still dumped in the Mediterranean sea without prior treatment.

The ecological group Greenpeace maintains that two million tons of crude oil are dumped in the Mediterranean every year, which amounts to one third of the total of oil dumped in the entire world.

In spite of the fact that, in the whole, the Mediterranean remains clear and that, according to these experts as well as others, it seems unlikely that the sea might die some day, spanish scientists have recently declared that the major sources of pollution should be eliminated as soon as possible. But to achieve this, one difficulty must be surpassed: the high cost of this operation, i.e. 34m. pesetas.

EL PAIS 8/9/86

The New York Times

POLLUTED MEDITERRANEAN ON THE WAY TO RECOVERY

The Mediterranean, a sea whose death from pollution was fashionable to predict not so long ago, is on its way to gradual recovery, according to the United Nations official who directs a 17-nation campaign to clean it up.

When the convention was concluded 10 years ago, sewage from all the 120 coastal cities was being dumped untreated into the sea. Such rivers as the Rhone, the Ebro or the Nile were carrying into the Mediterranean ever-increasing quantities of industrial, agricultural and urban pollutants.

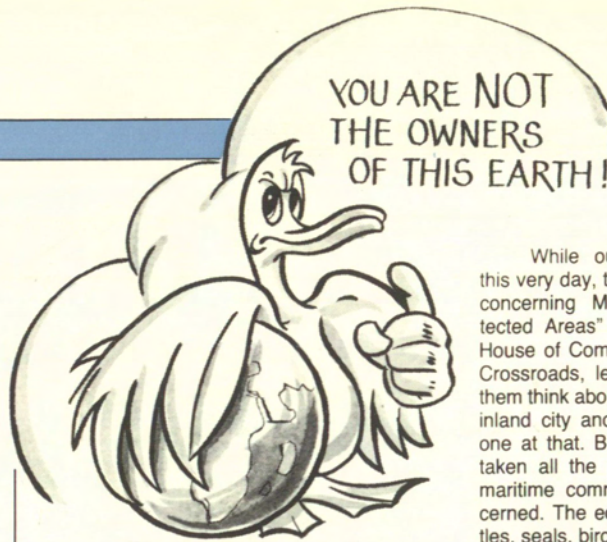
"Now, Tel Aviv has built a sewage-treatment plant, Athens is finally building one, and Naples, Genoa, Marseilles, Nice, Toulon, Alexandria and many others have build or are building," said Mr. Manos.

The latest agreement under the Mediterranean Action, which will come into force soon, is a convention making governments responsible for creating protected areas for some 500 vanishing species whose breeding places are in the Mediterranean. They include marine turtles, monk seals, Dalmatian pelicans and peregrine falcons.

The Mediterranean program is particularly proud of the participation of governments that usually shun cooperation because of political differences. Israel and Arab countries and Greece, Cyprus and Turkey may not speak directly to one another, Mr. Manos said, "but they speak to commonly agreed third persons."

Henry Kamm

THE NEW YORK TIMES, 21/10/86



GUEST EDITORIAL

THE AQUARIAN SUN

WE ARE NOT THE OWNERS OF THIS EARTH

The following Editorial was recently published in Aquaria's leading popular newspaper, "The Aquarian Sun":

*See how the dolphin dances
Listen to his magic song
Hear his cry of despair
If you can't understand it
It's because you are swimming
Against the current
In a different stream*

MARVIN ELEMAN

These words, by our national poet, are the most appropriate to address to our nation's leaders.

Humanity has, indeed, been swimming in a different stream for years. Alienated from the natural kingdom, from its roots, it has plunged into the World of the Machine.

The Human Race developed Science as a tool to understand Nature and Technology as a tool to modify the World to its own tastes. Being unprepared to acquire such a tremendous strength, Man proved to be an Apprentice Sorcerer. Today, no one can pretend that he fully understands Nature (even though we have walked a long way in that direction). But the worst part is that even though we know (or, rather, despite our knowledge and our best judgement) we go on modifying our surrounding world, causing severe harm.

It is commonplace to remind ourselves (albeit we can never emphasize the point too often) that we are not the owners of this planet: we are only its transient tenants.

We don't have only ourselves to care for (or our children, for that matter). Eleman's dolphins are an appropriate symbol.

But since we have the *knowledge* and the *power* (that make us the Masters of this Earth), all we need is the *will* in order to mend the mess we made of our world. Before the harm we cause becomes irreversible.

Joining hands seems to us the best way to do so. Signing Protocols appears to be a sensible path. But enforcing them is, definitely, the ultimate step.

While our Representatives discuss, this very day, the ratification of the "Protocol concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas" in the sombre but majestic House of Commons in our national capital, Crossroads, let them think about this. Let them think about Salvation. Crossroads is an inland city and not a heavily industrialized one at that. But Salvation has, historically, taken all the pressure as far as industry, maritime commerce and tourism are concerned. The ecosystems are suffering. Turtles, seals, birds are decreasing in numbers. Not long ago, by geological terms, they were the Masters of the coast. Not long from now they will only be exhibits in the Natural History Museum. The dolphin, this living symbol of the Mediterranean, is being hunted down by angry fishermen, who complain about their catches and fishing gear. Sites of exquisite beauty, like the Pirate's Rock, are covered by beer cans, plastic bottles and bags, tar, old tires and abandonment.

Our Founding Fathers in the Preamble to our Bill of Rights, quoted the most sacred of our Books: "For He Who Has Forsaken His Kin Shall Be Forsaken By It".

We forsook, indeed, our closest of kin: Nature. *Our Nature.*

Unfortunately we can claim the saddest of all records, in that respect: the situation in Aquaria is far worse than in any other Mediterranean country. And this is why we are the ones that should make an example of our country and haste to enforce the Specially Protected Areas Protocol. Not just *indorse* it but *enforce* it.

More privileged people in the region will, then, look at us and see a bright light-house that will lead them to safer waters.

And since we quoted a poem in the beginning of this article, let us close it with another poem, of much greater importance. Our National Anthem reminds us that

*"The deep blue of the Sea
The green of the hills
The turquoise of the Sky
The smile of the people
These all make Aquaria"*

Let us preserve them. And the rest. Because they form our heritage.

THE AQUARIAN SUN
Salvation, 2/1/1987.

MEDWAVES' Editor notes: Even though we have some, serious, objections as far as the author's style is concerned and despite the fact that he, obviously, overdramatizes the situation in his country, we decided to print this editorial because it touches, although not in a scientific way, some major problems of our region. We chose The Aquarian Sun's editorial to a much more important one, printed in "The Aquarian Times" the same day, because it reaches a much wider public.



GLIMPSES OF

The Mediterranean Scenaria allow us to extrapolate

THE BLUE PLAN is the tool the Mediterranean Action Plan uses to reflect on the future of the Mediterranean Basin and on the perspectives of a development that is compatible with the protection of the environment and its judicious management.

The Blue Plan was conceived (by the intergovernmental meeting, held in Split, 1977) in three phases:

Phase I referred to *Understanding*: the Project formulated an account of the interaction between Development and Environment, in the coastal states of the Mediterranean Basin and depicted the basic tendencies along which the components of the Mediterranean system could evolve. This analysis resulted in some 4,000 pages contained in 12 expert studies.

Phase II (that actually began in 1985) focuses on *Imagining*: exploring the possibilities of development in the coastal states for a period of 15 and 40 years (the time horizon being the years 2000 and 2025, respectively).

The Blue Plan used the different scenaria as a tool to define the trends (but not to "predict" the future) in order to give the policy makers the data (and the comprehension stemming therefrom) concerning the factors that might affect the fragile Mediterranean Environment (the coastal zones as well as the sea) by analysing the possible tendencies on a regional basis.

Every scenario is based on a working assumption, what we call a development hypothesis.

Five types of scenaria were chosen: three of them are "trend scenaria" (these take the existing factors as given, and allow only for modifications of the principal tendencies and do not question them) and two are "alternative" ones (these explore new possibilities like—in this case—other types of development and relations with the environment).

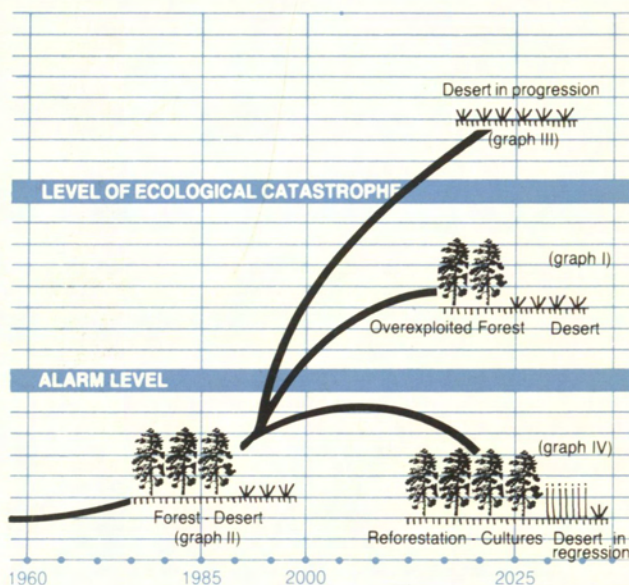
FIVE FUTURES

1 THE FIRST TREND SCENARIO is the one that results from extrapolating (in an educated way) the principal tendencies revealed by the first phase of the Project. It is called "reference scenario". For several sectors, such as urbanization, energy and food consumption, from the year 2000 onwards, certain tensions develop to become "unacceptable" and the pressures on the environment can surpass the approved limits (as they stand today).

2 THE SECOND SCENARIO is destined to serve (as in any such exercise) as the "pole of repulsion". It explores the tendency according to which the present trends are aggravated. The effects of "laissez faire" are quickly felt: increase of population, rapid urbanization, accelerated exhaustion of resources, acute commercial strife between the nations and the regions.

3 THE THIRD TREND SCENARIO, on the other hand, is a moderated one: it is based on the assumption that the present trends might be restrained and that the international co-operation might augment. A controlled development might lead to a slower population growth, and to a better use of space.

4 BOTH ALTERNATIVE SCENARIA are based on a hypothesized reinforcement of the Mediterranean Spirit. The "alternative reference scenario" presupposes: self-centered development, geopolitical multipolarization, effective North-South co-operation, a policy of development that utilizes more wisely the Mediterranean resources. The situation, though, is made more difficult through the utilization of often lesser quality resources. Envi-

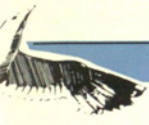


Obtained through extrapolation of the trends of the past an isolated image (graph I) is usually of poor scientific value and gives a first indication. A scenaria (linking graph II with graph I) comprises four elements: a starting image, for instance in 1985 (graph II) an evolution hypothesis, a course of progress and a final image, for instance in 2025 (graph I). But there are many evolution hypotheses, so there is not only one scenaria. Allowing for variations of the hypotheses one can explore different evolution scenaria (for example the ones leading from graph II to graph III, graph I and graph IV). These scenaria were designed to be contrasting.

ronment would be incorporated in Development. The environmental approach would be preventive and not curative.

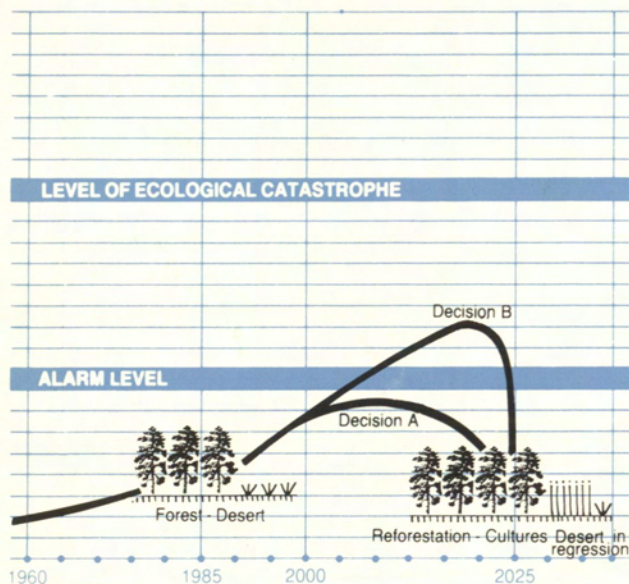
5 THE FIFTH (ALTERNATIVE AGGREGATED) SCENARIO, according to the demand made by many countries, is based on the assumption of a wider and more effective South-South co-operation, complementary to the improved North-South relations. This scenario envisages regional economic aggregations in the Southern and Eastern part of the Mediterranean, which will, consequently, open up larger markets and allow the countries to utilize resources and space in a more rational and effective way.

"The scenaria", notes Mr M. Grenon, Scientific Director of the Blue Plan, "could be differentiated depending on their ability to control or not, several major issues such as employment, food and agriculture, purveyance of wealth and jobs, and urbanization.



THE FUTURE

and to plan our environmental policies accordingly



The data studied show that the situation in 2025 according to the trend scenario would not be acceptable. So we have to influence the evolution in order to obtain a better result. The measures will, in general, cost more if the decisions are taken later (for example, course of progress B is more costly and more difficult than course of progress A, and, furthermore, the alarm level is surpassed).

Instead of referring to the forest we could use another example: sea pollution, quality of coastal waters etc.

The scenarios are, of course, contrasting. They were conceived to that purpose. When the different effects of the key subjects will be better understood, these scenarios will be combined, tentatively, in "most probable scenario".

Every scenario must include four elements:

- A starting image (which Blue Plan Phase One tried to define)
- Development Hypotheses
- A course of progress and
- A final image.

It is clear that the results of the scenarios cannot have the same degree of precision for the time horizons of 2000 and 2025, although the elements included in each must, of course, be coherent.

Phase III (Proposing), planned to be short in duration (no more than a few months) relates to the presentation and discussion of the findings and the experts' recommendations to the United Nations Environment Programme and the Mediterranean countries. "The

Blue Plan", says Mr Grenon, "is not a Blue Book: it is essentially aimed at ACTION".

PARTICIPATION

To date all Mediterranean countries have established (or are in the point of establishing) a national group (with representatives of different ministries and institutions) for the formulation of national scenarios in conjunction with a Central Group, that was founded in Sophia Antipolis, where the Blue Plan Regional Activity Center is established.

The two teams which appear to be more advanced, at this point, are Spain and France.

The "Reflection Group on the Mediterranean Scenarios" is an open group that musters about 20 experts on ecology and economics from the coastal states. These scientists meet every six months on the average. The main tasks of the central working group are:

1. to define a general framework for the preparation of the national scenarios that will be drafted by the countries and will serve for the synthesis of the Mediterranean ones. To do that the group must insure the uniformity of approach and the coherence between the sectors of activities as well as the working hypotheses.

2. to undertake the preparation of several "horizontal" surveys concerning demography (including population movements), macro-economics, urbanization, food and agriculture, tourism, transports, energy and their impacts on environment. These surveys, carried on by the Central Group as well as the working groups, will be based, as much as possible, on certain papers by PAP/RAC and MED POL and will contribute to the overall view of the Mediterranean Basin. They will be extremely useful tools for the teams preparing the national scenarios.

3. to aggregate the national scenarios into Mediterranean scenarios, in order to draft a Final integrated Report in which the working hypotheses and the conclusions will be presented as well.

According to the report of the Blue Plan National Focal Points' meeting in Athens (28-30/4/86) it was proposed that this Final Report should be as brief as possible, concise and easy to read by all users.

The Final Report will be addressed to three categories of users and will, consequently, be composed of three separate parts:

- An executive summary for decision makers
- A full detailed description of the methodology, the data bases, the themes, interaction and final outcomes for the scientific and professional groups and
- a general and popularized summary for the general public.

The countries' reports on their Scenarios will be ready by April-May 1987 (this being an interim deadline). Spain and France have accepted that their scenarios be communicated as an example to all Mediterranean countries. It should be noted that the national scenarios will be considered as confidential by the Blue Plan team and will not be publicized in any way without the permission of the country concerned.

According to the timetable adopted by the Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Genoa, 9-13 September 1985) a first version of the Synthesis Report of the scenarios will be circulated to the National Focal Points for comments in June 1987. A meeting is scheduled for July 20-22, 1987, between the National Focal Points and representatives of the Central Group. An annex, containing the comments of the National Focal Points, will be added to the first version in order to allow the participants to the Fifth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (to be held in Athens, September 7-11, 1987) to have a global view of the whole process and, consequently, to make their decisions.



Transboundary Air Pollution. Effects and Control. Report prepared within the framework of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. Air Pollution Studies No 3. Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations, New York, 1986.

PAR/RAC Bulletin July/September 1986, Vol 5 No 3

Report of the Working Group on Integrated Global Ocean Monitoring to GESAMP and Report of the Second Meeting of the GESAMP Working Group 24 on Integrated Global Ocean Monitoring (IGON), Moscow, USSR, November 25-29, 1986.

Integrated Global Ocean Monitoring. Proceedings of the First International Symposium (in two volumes), Leningrad, Gidrometeoizdat 1986. These volumes contain the proceedings of the Symposium held in Tallin, USSR, October 2-10, 1983. It was organized, jointly, by the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Control of Natural Environment, the USSR Commission for UNEP, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO and the World Meteorological Organisation.

Estudios Turisticos No 80. This Magazine is published quarterly by the Spanish Institute for Tourism. In its 140 pages, this issue includes articles on the Spanish touristic model, the commercialization of the tourist industry, the importance of tourism for the Spanish economy, "Why does one travel?" The reasons behind the travel of German tourists in 1982, Tourism and the Economic Crisis.

Quality of the environment in Japan, 1985. From the Preface by Testua Tajima, Director of the International Affairs Division of the Environmental Agency:

"This is a condensed version of the White Paper on the Environment for the fiscal year 1984 (April 1984 - March 1985), the 17th annual report of the Government of Japan, which was submitted to the 102nd session of the Diet pursuant to Article 7 of the Basic Law for Environmental Pollution Control.

This year's White Paper focuses on the issues of the environmental problems

of an urbanizing society. Today, urbanization is in progress not only in metropolitan areas but in the provincial cities as well, and a great majority of the people will presumably live in an urban environment in the near future. In this regard, how to assure a safe and comfortable urban environment is now a major task for environmental administration."

The first part of this volume contains two chapters: "Environmental Problems in an Urbanizing Society" and "Extensive Measures for Better Environment".

Part Two is a detailed presentation of the "Present State of Environmental Problems and Countermeasures" and gives a complete picture of Japan's environment. A series of Appendices completes the work.

Wastes in the Ocean Volumes 4, 5 and 6. Three new books appeared in the series that started in 1983, published by John Wiley and Sons: "Energy Wastes in the Ocean" (Vol 4) edited by Duedall, Kester, Park and Ketchum, "Deep-Sea Waste Disposal" (Vol 5) edited by Kester, Burt, Capuzzo, Park, Duedall and Ketchum and "Nearshore Waste Disposal" (Vol 6) edited by Ketchum, Capuzzo, Burt, Duedall, Park and Kester. The three first volumes in the series concerned "Industrial and Sewage Wastes in the Ocean", "Dredged-Material Disposal in the Ocean" and "Radioactive Wastes and the Ocean" and were edited by the same group.



The map brochure has already appeared in Greek and Serbo-Croatian, the last of the Mediterranean languages in which the

WANTED!

SLIDES AND PRINTS!
\$ 0,00

The Mediterranean Action Plan is looking for slides and prints, both black & white and colour, whose subjects are related to MAP, its objectives and activities, in order to use them in MEDWAVES and forward them to the media. Although MAP is sorry to say it cannot compensate the providers, it will make sure that *the sources will be credited.*

Not only horror stories are requested!

Send us positive views of the Mediterranean environment as well!

Thank you!

Brochure was planned to appear. We remind our readers that the brochure is also available in the following languages: English, French, Italian, Arabic, Spanish and Turkish.

Medio Ambiente en España, 1985. A publication of the Ministry of Public Works and Urbanism. An extremely detailed account on the state of the environment in Spain. In 360 pages, 24 chapters analyze the present condition and its dynamics. The book is full of valuable graphics, maps, lists of institutions, tables and indices.

Papers presented at the FAO/UNEP meeting on toxicity and bioaccumulation of selected substances in marine organisms. Rome, 1986.

These are the proceedings of the above mentioned meeting held in Rovinj, Yugoslavia, between the 5th and 9th of November, 1984. The volume contains 23 papers presented by scientists from the following countries: Greece, Turkey, Tunisia, Italy, Egypt, Yugoslavia, F.R. of Germany and the United Kingdom.

MAP NEWS

SPANISH EXHIBITION ON THE MED

"The Mediterranean Lives" toured Spain during the summer. This comprehensive exhibition, suggested by the Spanish Minister of Urbanism and Public Works Mr Javier L. Saenz Consculluela, was shown in Barcelona, Madrid, Palma de Mallorca, Valencia, Alicante and Malaga.

The exhibition consist of four parts:

- a large-scale model of the Mediterranean on which a series of lights identify areas of population concentration, tourism, etc., and the six MAP Centres (Athens, Malta, Monaco, Split, Sophia, Tunis);

- a series of panels illustrating the physical characteristics of the Mediterranean, pollution problems and conservation needs, and the solution, the Action Plan, described in all its components in six panels, and the Spanish efforts and results;

- a series of pictures by leading photographers showing the variety of the Mediterranean landscape and cultures;

- a video presentation in a projection room. In the video clip a film personality and a singer appeal for co-operation in protecting the Mediterranean, and the Minister describes the international and national programmes under way.

ATLAS OF ITALIAN BEACHES

An Atlas of Italian beaches was published by the National Research Council of Italy. The Atlas, consisting of fifty sheets (scale 1:100,000) records the effects of human activities along the coastline, the present state of littoral zones and its dynamics. Single maps can be ordered from S.EL.CA. Srl, Via R. Giuliani 153, 50141 Firenze, at the price of Lit. 7,000 per sheet. The whole bound edition can be purchased at the price of Lit. 350,000 plus V.A.T. from C.N.R. Servizio Pubblicazioni P.le A. Moro 7, 00185 Roma.

NEW BATHING WATERS QUALITY REGULATIONS IN CROATIA

Since October 1, 1986, a new regulation concerning the quality of bathing waters in the Socialist republic of Croatia, Yugoslavia entered into force. It concerns the following microbiological parameters:

PARAMETER	CONCENTRATIONS per 100 ml
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Total coliforms	500
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Faecal coliforms	100
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Faecal streptococci	100
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The above mentioned concentrations should not be exceeded in the 80% of the analysed samples. The analytical methods are the Membrane Filtration Culture Method or the Multiple Test Tube Method.

The same regulations are in the process of being finalized in other coastal republics such as Slovenia, Montenegro and Bosnia and Hercegovina.

EUROPEAN BANK'S LOAN TO MARSEILLE

The European Investment Bank (E.I.B.) has granted a loan of F.F. 100 m. for the construction of a waste water treatment plant that will serve the city of Marseille and seven adjoining municipalities. The plant is expected to treat 360,000 m³ per day. The loan is repayable in 20 years. At the meeting on co-operation, organized by the Co-ordinating Unit and hosted by the EEC in Brussels (September 1984) the E.I.B. representative had stated the Bank's interest in offering loans for infrastructures related to the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution.

ERRATA CORRIGENDUM

The Seminar on water and sanitation in small Mediterranean islands and isolated coastal areas held in Palma, 24-26 September 1986 (MEDWAVES No 6 p. 7) was convened jointly by PAP/RAC and WHO/EURO, which are collaborating in the whole activity.

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THE MAP CALENDAR OF MEETINGS JANUARY - MAY 1987

Consultation Meeting on measures to propose for prevention of pollution by mercury and cadmium	7 January Athens
Consultation on assessment of Mediterranean Monitoring and Research programme (MED POL)	8-9 Jan. Athens
Inter-Agency Advisory Committee for MED POL (IAAC-XX)	12-16 Jan. Athens
Consultation on Aquaculture	2-4 Febr. Rome
ROCC Review Meeting	23-27 Feb. Malta
Meeting of Experts on water resources management - guidelines	2-3 March Split (tentative)
Meeting on appropriate methods for eutrophication assessment and identification of markedly eutrophied areas	2-6 March Bologna
Seventh meeting of steering Committee of BP	10-11 March Cairo
Meeting of Experts on solid and liquid waste	11-13 March Split (tentat.)
Meeting of the Bureau	25-26 March Istanbul
Workshop on historic settlements - methodology	18-20 March Marseille
Experts meeting on solid waste management - manual	1-2 April Split
Fifth Meeting of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Cooperation for MED POL	6-10 April Athens
Seminar on soil protection	15-17 April Split
Meeting on the contribution of bilateral and multilateral aid programmes to the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan	22-24 April Malaga (Tent.)
Workshop on integrated Planning - Elements of common Mediterranean Methodology	6-8 May Split

OUR BRETHREN FROM UP NORTH OUR FAMILY FROM DOWN UNDER

The Mediterranean Coastal States are not the only ones that joined efforts in order to preserve the marine environment. Countries from all around the Globe form Regional Action Plans. We consider those Projects as our "brothers" (and, being one of the older ones, our younger "brothers" at that).

Since we recently received some documents from two of those Plans, we opted to give them some of our space (instead of presenting the documents in the book section). We will, undoubtedly, do the same with the rest of our "relations". Until then, Family, it's good to know we're not alone!

THE Baltic Sea States signed the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area in 1974. Among the duties of the Commission, as stated in the Convention are for example, to receive, process, summarize and disseminate relevant scientific, technological and statistical information in order to promote measures to protect the marine environment of the Baltic Sea Area. The Contracting Parties, thus undertake to support or contribute to programmes aimed at developing ways and means for the assessment of the nature and extent of pollution, pathways, exposures, risks and remedies in the Baltic Sea Area.

The Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission – Helsinki Commission during its second meeting, February 1981, decided to establish an ad hoc Group of Experts on the Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea (GEA). At its third meeting held in February 1982, the Commission approved the action plan of the Group, as proposed by the Scientific-Technological Committee (STC), including the preparation of the



THE BALTIC COUNTRIES

First Periodic Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea.

One of the observed signs of positive changes in the marine environment of the Baltic Sea during the past five years is the decrease in the concentrations of DDT in fish and birds, owing to effective measures carried out by the Baltic Sea States. Another is the general decrease of PCBs detected in certain areas. The metal concentrations in the open Baltic

waters are comparatively low, taking into account the high fresh water content of these waters. This indicates that the effects of anthropogenic contribution to trace metal concentrations in the open Baltic Sea is not alarmingly high. Generally, the values of mercury in fish in the open Baltic Sea are comparable to "natural" levels in the central North Sea and the North Atlantic. No widespread negative effects of oil on biota was documented during the study period, although chronic accidental oil pollution has caused local damage to the ecosystem.

The main negative changes in the marine environment of the Baltic Sea observed in the present assessment, are those concerning the trend towards increasing nutrient concentrations, contributing to more frequent oxygen depletion, and the occurrence of hydrogen sulphide in deep parts of the Baltic proper. In addition, exceptionally strong blooms of algae have occurred in the Kattegat and the Belt Sea. The blooms have caused depletion of oxygen in near-bottom waters, as well as mortality of bottom fauna in larger areas.

THE idea for a regional South Pacific environment management programme came from the South Pacific Commission (SPC) in 1974. Consultations between SPC and UNEP led, in 1975, to the suggestion of organizing a South Pacific Conference on the Human Environment. The South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) soon joined SPC's initiative and UNEP supported the development of what became known as the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) as part of its Regional Seas Programme. Among the numerous activities they have undertaken, SPREP's Contracting Parties recently reviewed an Action Strategy for Protected Areas in the South Pacific Region. "ENVIRONMENT NEWSLETTER" (No 5, APRIL-MAY 1986) informs us that:

At the Third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference held in Apia, Western Samoa, 1985, a regional Action Strategy



THE SOUTH PACIFIC ISLAND STATES

outlining practical and specific steps to be taken in establishing and managing a system of protected areas in the South Pacific was adopted. The Action Strategy is intended to provide guidance in the development and implementation of nature conservation and pro-

ected areas management policies in the region over the next four years, and will be reviewed at the Fourth South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference to be held in 1989. The broad goals of the Action Strategy expected to be achieved by 1989 are as follows:

- (i) The establishment of at least one protected area in each country and territory of the region;
- (ii) An increase to 40 per cent in the number of ecosystems receiving some kind of protection and
- (iii) The establishment of 50 new protected areas in the region.

Having the mandate over the Action Strategy, the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme is now in the process of formulating its own Work Programme to be implemented up to 1989 based on the immediate and priority requirements of its member countries submitted to the Apia Conference.